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1 JULY 1980 EGYPT: OPPOSITION PRESS COVERAGE

1 OF 1

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JPRS L/9171

1 July 1980

Near East/North Africa Report

(FOUO 24/80)

Egypt: Opposition Press Coverage



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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JPRS L/9171

1 July 1980

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

(FOUO 24/80)

EGYPT: OPPOSITION PRESS COVERAGE

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 12 Mar, 17 Apr 80

[Published by NPUG (National Progressive Unionist Grouping)
Party]

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EDITORIAL SAYS NPUG IS NOT COMMUNIST PARTY

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 12 Mar 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Name of Grouping Scares Officials!"]

[Text] In one week, the press has published two statements by Egyptian officials on the communist party's holding of a press conference on the normalization of relations between the Egyptian government and Israel. This is something that arouses questions and surprise.

In accordance with the laws in force in Egypt, regardless of whether we approve of or disapprove of these laws, no communist party shall be permitted to be founded. Every few months, the security agencies launch their campaigns against many Egyptians and throw them into jail for short or long periods, depending on the circumstances, on the charge of belonging to underground communist parties. Throughout 2 years from April 1978 and until January this year, the Supreme State Security Court was preoccupied with trying 19 defendants charged with belonging to communist organizations. Has the government changed its position and has a communist party been established and held a press conference unbeknownst to us and to the Egyptian public opinion?

If what is meant is the press conference that our party has held, then the matter seems more astonishing.

The Grouping Party is a legitimate party established on 29 March 1976 after approval of its program by the joint meeting of the People's Assembly and the Central Committee. This legitimacy was further confirmed in the wake of the promulgation of the parties law (law 40/77). According to its program and its membership, our party is definitely not a communist party.

We wonder, have the officials become so scared of the mention of the name and legitimacy of the National Progressive Unionist Party?

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MUHYI-AL-DIN CRITICIZES CARTER'S CONTAINMENT POLICY

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 12 Mar 80 pp 3-5

[Article by Khalid Muhyi-al-Din: "Carter's New Declaration and Issue of Middle East Peace; New Containment Policy Threatening Peoples' Hope for Real Peace"]

[Text] On 23 January 1980, President Carter delivered a speech to a joint meeting of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in which he declared that "any attempt by an outside power to control the Persian Gulf area will be considered an attack against the vital interests of the United States. All means, including armed force, will be used to repel it." Carter thus declared U.S. guardianship over the Middle East, including the Gulf area or the area known internationally as southwest Asia.

We all remember that in 1957, after the defeat of the 1956 tripartite attack against Egypt in 1956, Eisenhower declared his well-known principle that "the United States is prepared to use armed forces to help any country or group of countries requesting help to confront armed aggression by country controlled by world communism if he (the U.S. president) decides that there is need for such action." We also remember that President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir, supported by the entire Arab nation, rejected this principle. Carter's new declaration is different from the Eisenhower principle in political aspects that can be defined in the following:

A. The intervention of U.S. forces in the Middle East area in accordance with the Eisenhower principle is conditional upon and dependent on a request submitted by a country in the area. As for the Carter declaration, armed U.S. forces will intervene if the U.S. administration deems that its interests are threatened, i.e. the U.S. administration will wait for no request from any of its allies in the area to intervene in accordance with concluded treaties and agreements, as is the case in regard to implementation of the treaties concluded between the United States and its allies in various parts of the world. The United States will decide on its own when and where its armed forces will intervene to occupy the area's countries--and here lies the danger.

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B. The Eisenhower declaration defines the circumstance for the intervention of the U.S. forces as that of "armed aggression" whereas the Carter declaration uses the general phrase of "control of the Persian Gulf area" leading to undermining the "vital interests of the United States." Such a situation may result from an external aggression or from other causes, such as any political change in any country that does not please the United States and that the United States considers harmful to its vital interests (the Iranian revolution, for example). Moreover, the Eisenhower principle defines the source threatening the U.S. interests as that of "a country controlled by world communism" whereas the Carter declaration defines this source of danger as being an external source, without defining its nature. Therefore, any aid, even if it is in-kind aid, advanced by peace or progressive forces to the struggle of the area's peoples and to their national and progressive regimes will become a pretext for U.S. intervention.

C. The Carter declaration has not defined the borders of the Persian Gulf area in which the United States will intervene. Rather, Carter spoke in the same speech about the need "to guarantee the free movement of the Middle East oil." This explains the military measures that have been and that are being taken by the U.S. administration and that cover Pakistan, the Horn of Africa, the Indian Ocean and the Middle East area (Egypt, Israel, Turkey, Cyprus, Kenya, Somalia and Oman). This means that the waterways through which the Middle East and Gulf oil is transported have become a part of the "U.S. security belt," that this U.S. presence has assumed the quality of constancy and that the United States is ready to launch war against the area's states and peoples on its own decision and according to its own assessment and without waiting for any request from any government.

It is well known that even though this declaration was made on 23 January 1980, the implementation of this policy started in 1979. In March 1979, the United States exploited the conflict between the Democratic Yemen and North Yemen to start building an unprecedented naval, air and land military presence in the Gulf area, the Horn of Africa and the Indian Ocean and to expedite conclusion of the Washington treaty (between Egypt and Israel) for the creation of a military alliance in the area to replace the collapsed regime of the shah. This is why talk started about the special intervention forces and why construction of the bases and facilities started at least 6 months before the hostage crisis (in Iran) and at least 9 months before the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. It can be even said that the new U.S. policy, called the new containment policy on whose basis the Egyptian-Israeli conflict was settled (Camp David) within the framework of the cold war and not that of relaxation--it can be said that this solution constituted the beginning of this policy because this U.S. solution has excluded all the other parties, such as the PLO, Syria, Jordan and the Soviet Union as well, to serve the U.S. goals in the area and not to serve the goals of real peace.

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The first and second Baghdad [summit] conferences which included all the Arab states, except for the Egyptian government and the Iranian revolution were held in reply to this new containment policy. All the Arab states, as well as the Iranian revolution, stood against extension of the Camp David policy to the entire area.

The African and Latin American liberation movements also grew stronger, with the aid of the socialist countries, and important developments happened in a number of countries in these two continents. The OPEC conference was then held in June 1979 and declared important changes in the policy of the oil producing countries aimed at protecting the interests of these countries in the face of the industrial countries.

On the morrow of those events, talk started about the special U.S. force for intervention in the Gulf, keeping in mind that most of the Gulf countries, except for the Iranian revolution and Iraq, are tied to the United States by special relations. It is not understandable, therefore, why the special U.S. force is to intervene against countries most of which are conservative and are linked to the United States by special relations, as I have already said, and why such intervention should take place without the request of these governments.

But the situation is bigger than this. The U.S. policy wants a political relaxation not tied to a military relaxation because a military relaxation coupled with military non-intervention against the other countries will help the third world's progress and liberation movements and because the period between the 1972 Moscow declaration on peaceful coexistence between the United States and the Soviet Union and 1979 is a period in which numerous socialist, progressive and nationalist regimes were founded in Asian, African and Latin American countries. This was also linked to the persistent efforts to build a new international economic system. All these developments encouraged the oil producing countries to set the prices of their oil by themselves and in freedom from the will of the industrial countries. All this has been reflected in a new U.S. policy that wants to revive the cold war. The deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe and the expanded construction of U.S. bases and building of the U.S. presence in the Gulf, the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea have threatened the SALT II treaty.

The U.S. policy has found that the steps of the military relaxation accompanying the international and political relaxation--such as SALT II, reduction of the forces in Europe and the extension of this reduction to the other parts of the world--will weaken the U.S. influence in most parts of the world. The United States relies on its military force to dictate its terms to the rest of the world in all spheres. This is why certain forces in the United States opposed to the policy of relaxation have intensified and exploited the events to revive the cold war climate in a different form. What we witness at present in our area and in various parts of the world is the fruit of this new policy.

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The Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and the demand for withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan must be viewed within this framework. The so-called comprehensive peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict must also be viewed within this framework.

Our party demands withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan and our party is seeking a comprehensive peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. But our party also believes that the realization of these goals must pass through numerous joint courses.

The demand for withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan, which is one of our party's demands, must be realized simultaneously with the elimination of all forms of the U.S. military presence in the entire area and elimination of all the means of threat to which the area's countries are subjected. Only thus can security and peace be realized for the area's peoples.

In the light of this and in light of the new situation in southwest Asia and in the Middle East, advantage must be taken of the demand for withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan as an element of pressure for removing the U.S. military presence. It is essential to raise the slogan of transforming the Middle East area and southwest Asia area into an area of peace. This goal cannot be realized without unifying all the forces struggling against imperialism and foreign influence behind a single slogan, namely the slogan of turning this area into an area of peace.

Though we have advocated and we continue to advocate the realization of a just and comprehensive peace for the Arab-Israeli conflict on sound bases, the most important of which is the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, the realization of this goal without realizing the aforementioned goal of transforming the Middle East and southwest Asia into areas of peace will not serve the peoples' real goals because the comprehensive solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict will then proceed along the paths of the cold war and of the new U.S. containment policy, because U.S. control will be restored to the area and because what is intended by the comprehensive solution will become an Arab-Israeli Camp David instead of the Egyptian-Israeli Camp David.

If progress and prosperity are sought for the area, then it is inevitable that the establishment of peace in the area and the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict must come through the two paths.

Though we have raised for many years and we continue to raise the slogan of holding an international conference within the framework of the United Nations to reach a just settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict, we must think at the same time of demanding an international conference joining all the parties concerned, including the Soviet Union, to transform the Middle East and southwest Asia into an area of peace. The practical realization of these two slogans requires a change in the balances of

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power in the various countries of the area and in the area in its entirety and this is something against which the U.S. imperialism and its agents will launch ferocious attacks and open intervention. We must be prepared for this with all our allies, internally and abroad, in order to preserve the peace and the interests of peoples.

Our party, along with the honorable national and progressive parties, is seeking to realize these goals practically. It is capable, if it expands the Egyptian and Arab working front and this front in the entire area, of confronting this new U.S. policy. This new U.S. policy is dominated by the elements of weakness:

The U.S. force is countered by the ever-growing strength of the socialist countries. The West European countries and Japan do not want the international relaxation [detente] to collapse under the dreams of the U.S. control and the contradiction in the goals of the new U.S. policy. Perhaps French President d'Estaing's visit to the Gulf area and his support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establishing their state under the PLO's leadership and the rapid support given by the Western European countries to the French position have isolated the U.S. Camp David policy. Moreover, the desire of the oil producing countries to free themselves of the U.S. control and of the influence of the giant companies further weakens the foundations of the new U.S. Policy.

The recent U.S. position whereby the United States backed down on the Security Council resolution concerning the settlements has revealed the falsehood of the U.S. policy toward Islam and the Muslims, especially in the wake of the U.S. approval of the unification of Jerusalem under the Israeli control. The religious forces in the area will understand this lesson and will understand that the area's future depends on the cooperation of all the forces opposed to imperialism and Zionism and supporting democracy and that religion will not be an instrument for imperialism and its agents but an instrument of resistance against the goals of foreign domination and for the rights of peoples. Perhaps the lesson of the Iranian revolution provides the example in this regard. Despite all the U.S. inducements, especially in the wake of the Afghan events, the Islamic revolution in Iran has set the goal of eliminating U.S. control from its country as a first and irrevocable goal.

This is why all the forces in Egypt and in Arab countries must rally while we are making our first step toward resisting the Egyptian-Israeli normalization and toward obstructing dealings with the Israelis as the beginning of a long path of national and democratic struggle.

Our Egyptian and Arab force and the forces of all the peoples of southwest Asia and the Middle East area must be rallied for these goals so that we may turn our area into an area of peace where the arms race is stopped and where the area's resources are channelled toward real peaceful building in order that prosperity may be realized for our peoples and that construction and factory machines may replace the arms imports whose figures are rising astronomically in the area.

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We want real peace.

We want to secure for the peoples, especially the Palestinian people, their right to self-determination without foreign intervention.

We want non-intervention in the domestic affairs of these countries.

We want every people to choose their path freely and independently.

We want to put an end to aggression and to the threat of aggression.

We want to eliminate all the military bases, all the foreign fleets, all the military alliances and all the weapons of total destruction as a condition for turning the Middle East and southwest Asia into an area of peace and we want the conventional and nuclear arms race in the area to stop.

We must have no illusions. The realization of this serious goal requires many years of national, pan-Arab [qawmi] and democratic struggle to rescue the homeland and the entire area from the imperialist control because the United States will not leave unless forced to and because the struggle of the area's peoples to compel the United States and its forces to leave is in the direst need of the support of the other friendly international forces as a power of support and pressure that serves the peoples in their struggle and that restores the balances of the local and international forces.

The struggle for a just and permanent settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is fully linked with the efforts to transform the Middle East area and southwest Asia area into an area of peace where the U.S. military presence, or any other foreign military presence, is eliminated.

Our people's struggle for national, political and economic independence is linked to the struggle of all the Arab peoples and to the struggle of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for establishing a new international economic system and for a real international relaxation [infira] tied to a military relaxation that turns our area into an area of real peace that serves our people's aspiration for real prosperity and real democracy.

This is a modest effort that I present to the party members while we are on the threshold of holding our party's constituent congress on 10 April 1980 on the fourth anniversary of our party.

These words are subject to discussion and review so that we may determine the elements of the national and pan-Arab action in the coming phase.

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GROUPING PARTY ELECTS GENERAL SECRETARY, CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 pp 1, 2

[Article: "Khalid Muhyi-al-Din is Party Secretary General"]

[Text] The General Congress has elected unanimously struggler Khalid Muhyi-al-Din as the Grouping Party secretary general. Dr Yahya al-Jamal, the congress chairmanship member, had nominated Khalid Muhyi-al-Din in the final session in implementation of the bylaws. Nobody proceeded to run against Muhyi-al-Din. The vote was taken and the congress elected Muhyi-al-Din secretary general unanimously, without any objecting or abstaining votes.

The Central Committee has elected the General Secretariat and the Central Committee Secretariat. The Central Committee Secretariat is comprised of colleagues: Lutfi Wakid as Central Committee secretary; 'Abd al-'Azim al-Maghribi as assistant secretary; Yahya al-Jamal as political affairs secretary; Muhammad Khalil as organization secretary; 'Abd-al-Raziq as popular action secretary; Ramzi Fahim as financial affairs secretary; Sabri Mubadda as secretary of liberties; Milad Hanna as foreign relations secretary; Abu-al-'Izz al-Hariri as parliamentary affairs secretary; Mustafa 'Asi as secretary of religious affairs and national unity; Lutfi al-Khuli as Arab affairs secretary; and Isma'il Sabri 'Abdallah as secretary of the Studies and Research Center. The Central Committee has also elected Muhammad Ahmad Khalafallah as secretary of the Party Discipline Committee.

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DEMANDS OF GROUPING PARTY CONGRESS CITED

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 pp 1, 2

[Article: "Government Is Responsible for Sectarian Sedition, Inflation and Absence of Democracy; Congress Urges: Need To Foil Israel's Attempt To Destroy Egyptian Economy, Re-examination of Policy and Laws of Open-Door Economy; Comprehensive Peace Means Ending Current Imperialist-Zionist Aggression Against Arab Nation and Creation of Palestinian State on Palestinian Soil; Abolishing Sentences of Special Courts and Releasing Prisoners Detained Because of These Cases; Ousting Present Government and Forming Government Comprised of National Elements To Prepare for New and Free Elections; Electing Central Committee, General Secretariat and Central Committee Secretariat"]

[Text] At the end of its meetings, the [Grouping] Party's first General Congress has declared its rejection of the policy of separate peace with Israel under the canopy of the United States and has held this policy [responsible for] the sectarian sedition, inflation and the supremacy of the democracy of the sycophants. The congress has also demanded liquidation of the parasitic activities that are producing enormous wealth for a small number of individuals, re-examination of the open-door economic policy and of all the laws issued in the name of this policy so as to adapt them to the requirements of development and has also demanded that the role of comprehensive development be stressed. The congress has also underlined the need to foil Israel's attempts to control the Egyptian economy.

The congress has adopted the concept of comprehensive peace projected by Khalid Muhyi-al-Din in his opening address to the congress in which he said that "comprehensive peace means here ending the current imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Arab nation and the Palestinian people's right to determine their future and to set up their independent national state on the soil of Palestine under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative."

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The congress has also demanded abolishing all the sentences issued by the special courts in the political cases since May 1971.

The congress has also urged all the national opposition forces in Egypt to consolidate their efforts and to work with all the legitimate means and methods to force the present government to resign and to form a provisional government comprised of national democratic elements acceptable to all the currents so that this government may eliminate all the conditions restricting the political and democratic liberties, may cancel the state of emergency, the press censorship and the ruling party's monopolization of the press establishments and may hold new People's Assembly elections on the basis of election by platform [al-qa'imah] to which all the political and legal guarantees are secured.

The congress has also approved the party's general program and the bylaws and has issued, in addition to the political statement, a number of organizational resolutions.

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MUHYI-AL-DIN OUTLINES NPUG STRATEGIC GOAL, DEMANDS IN SPEECH TO CONGRESS

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 pp 4, 5

[Article: "Khalid Muhyi-al-Din: We Will Continue Struggle, Regardless of Sacrifices; We Will Not Weaken, Will Not Be Intimidated by Jails and Will Not Hesitate Even in Face of Death Itself Until Sun of Real Freedom, Justice and Prosperity Shines"]

[Text] At 1000 on Thursday, 10 April, the proceedings of the opening session of the first General Congress of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party started. This day coincides with the fourth anniversary of the foundation of our party. This main hall of the party headquarters was jammed with more than 700 members of the congress, guests, journalists and correspondents of the world press and news agencies. The guests attending the opening session included Dr 'Isamat Sayf-al-Dawlah, a lawyer; Ahmad Nabil al-Hilali, a member of the Lawyers Union Council; Dr Sami Mansur, a member of the Journalists Union Council; and Dr Muhammad Hasan al-Zayyat, a former deputy prime minister.

The session was opened with a Koran recitation and then the proceedings for electing the first congress chairmanship members started and Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, Yahya al-Jamal, Muhammad Ahmad Khalafallah, Milad Hanna, Mustafa 'Asi, Shaykh 'Ali Khatir 'Ali Talkhan, 'Abd-al-Majid al-Duwayl, Jalal Rajab, Aminhan Shafiq and 'Abd-al-Raziq Hasan were elected.

Honoring Departed Strugglers

Khalid Muhyi-al-Din then delivered the opening address in which he reviewed the party's struggle throughout 4 years and asked the audience to observe a minute's silence in honor of the strugglers that have departed from among us and that can no longer attend the congress works, especially struggler Kamal-al-Din Rif'at.

In his opening address, Khalid Muhyi-al-Din said: "It is our duty while preparing for a new phase of our struggle to understand well these events and developments, assess them accurately and to learn from them the right lessons that we should put at the disposal of this congress while it is

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performing its tasks and that we should put at the disposal of our party while moving forward toward the future. The first thing that we should recall today are the conditions under which the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party was founded. Why was the Grouping founded? How does it carry out its activities? What are the most outstanding positions that it has taken and the battles that it has waged and what are their effects on the party's internal structure, on its position in society, on the position of the political forces toward it and on the people's position toward it? What are the fundamental changes witnessed by the Egyptian society in this period and what is their relationship with the political situation in Egypt? What is our assessment of the current situation, our view of the future and what are our most important goals and our struggle program for the future?

Egypt Lost in 'Abd-al-Nasir's Departure Fundamental Mainstay of National Progressive Unionist Movement

Khalid Muhyi-al-Din added: "Egypt lost in the departure of immortal leader Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir a main mainstay of the national progressive unionist movement. 'Abd-al-Nasir devoted his life to the cause of national independence and social justice. This is why our loss in his departure was an enormous loss, especially since the new authority in Egypt has adopted different positions and has projected for Egypt different options. All the evidence present at the beginning of 1976 confirmed that this authority was proceeding toward the crystallization of a new policy totally different from the policy adopted and followed by Egypt since the inception of the 23 July revolution. Those new conditions developed in expression of social and class interests conflicting with the interests of the toiling and producing classes in Egypt. Those conditions serve primarily the interests of the parasitic classes and of the remnants of the old classes liquidated by the 23 July revolution and are in conflict with the gains realized by the working class, the poor and middle class farmers and by the other Egyptian middle classes and productive classes. In the face of this development in Egypt's new economic and social conditions and in the official policies, a new and independent political force had to rise, carry out its activity within the framework of legitimacy and impose on all the other sides acceptance of its independent political existence as a reflection of the toiling and productive classes' interests and as a force defending the popular gains realized by the 23 July revolution and its national and pan-Arab [al-qawmiyah] accomplishments. The National Progressive Unionist Grouping has been this new political force."

Alternative Strategy to One Implemented by Authority

"The current situation in Egypt and at the Arab and international levels requires us to emerge from this congress with an alternative strategy to the one implemented by the authority so that we may be able to face the coming phase with its challenges and dangers. It is important that the General Congress committees witness profound discussions on the components

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of this strategy. It is my belief that the time has come for us to define our general strategic goal in the struggle to turn the Middle East area into an area of complete peace and liberation from all forms of foreign domination and to end the current imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Arab nation and the serious threat to this nation's vital interests, thus turning the area from the arms race to the race for development and building a united and independent international Arab society that controls its own natural resources and in which the Arab masses have the basic leadership role. This strategic goal requires us, as a first step, to struggle for the comprehensive and just peace instead of the separate peace projected by the Camp David strategy.

"Comprehensive peace means here ending the current imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Arab nation on the basis of Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and of recognizing the Palestinian people's right to determine their future and to set up their independent national state on the Palestinian soil under the leadership of the PLO, (the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people). It also means transforming the Middle East area and southwest Asia into an area of peace that is free of foreign armies, military bases and fleets and of military facilities for the major powers."

We Demand Release of Political Prisoners Detained After May 1971

Khalid Muhyi-al-Din added: "This general strategic goal cannot be realized unless we struggle inside Egypt for the following goals:

"1. Struggle to return Egypt to its normal position as a liberationist and progressive force hostile to imperialism and taking part in the leadership of the Arab liberation movement and the nonalignment movement.

"2. Struggle against the policy of separate peace to prevent its extension to other parts of the Arab homeland.

"3. Struggle to transform the superficial democracy into a real democracy and to create a comprehensive democratic transformation in the Egyptian society. In this regard, we demand as a first step abolition of the state of emergency, of all the laws restricting the liberties, of the special laws and of the special courts. We also demand abolition of all the sentences issued by special courts in political cases after May 1971, be they the sentences issued by the Revolution Court in case No 1 of 1971 connected with the May events, the sentences issued by the state security courts or the sentences issued by the military courts. We further demand the immediate release of all those detained as a result of these special sentences.

"4. Implement an alternative economic policy based on planned development and on protecting the economic independence."

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Greeting to Strugglers Behind Bars

Concluding his address, Khalid Muhyi-al-Din said: "You have all perhaps noticed the absence of a number of colleague members of the General Congress and of the party who have been prevented by prison walls from taking part in this important historic event. They disappeared from among us on the 15th of last January and they are still paying this tax to which every Egyptian with an opinion is exposed. In the name of all of you, I address to them and to all the friends behind prison walls greetings of appreciation, assuring them that we will continue the struggle regardless of the sacrifices, that we will not weaken, will not be intimidated by jails and will not hesitate even in the face of death itself until the sun of real freedom, justice and prosperity rises.

"Long live Egypt as the homeland of freedom, socialism and unity."

Special Greeting to Soul of Martyr Zaki Murad

One of the colleague members of the congress requested that a special greeting be addressed to the soul of martyr Zaki Murad who lived his life struggling for the interests of the toiling classes, who was a defender of the people's liberties and of their right to expression and who took part in the work of the Committee To Defend the National Culture. The hall reverberated with applause and all those present stood up in a greeting of esteem and veneration for the martyr struggler.

Sharp Applause for Yasir 'Arafat's Message

Yasir 'Arafat's message to the congress was received with a resounding storm of applause lasting several minutes.

The congress has elected five women members to its Central Committee, namely: Aminah Shafiq, Zaynat Rizq, Ilfat 'Ali, Faridah al-Naqqash and Shahandah Muqallad.

Party Has No Branches Abroad Yet

An official spokesman of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party has stated that the party abides in its movement, alliances and methods by the constitutional legitimacy, adding that the party has no branches abroad so far, that it is not involved as a member in any groupings abroad and that the party members who live outside Egypt for any reason are governed by the party's constitution which confines their activities to "advocating the party's principles, following up the events in Egypt, studying the party's periodic and irregular publications and participating with their opinion in the party's various circles. The party members abroad are banned from interfering in the domestic affairs of the country in which they live. Moreover, communication with the parties of these countries is banned to the members and is restricted to the party's central leadership alone."

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The Grouping Party's official spokesman has asserted that any statements conflicting with this one are of no weight, reflect the opinion of those who make them only and do not commit the party at all.

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NPUG CONGRESS' POLITICAL STATEMENT VOICES PARTY'S VARIOUS DEMANDS

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 pp 5, 7, 9

[Article: "General Political Statement Demands That Camp David Accords Be Dropped"]

[Text] At the conclusion of its works, the [NPUG] party's General Congress issued a unanimously approved general political statement reflecting the party's line on the various issues and dealing fundamentally with the national, democratic and economic issues.

The statement says: Our party has stood fast in the Egyptian political arena and opposed and warned as of the first moment of the serious consequences emanating from the president of the republic's visit to Jerusalem and from the method of independent dealing with Israel under the canopy of the United States. Today, our party no longer stands alone in its opposition to the policy of normalization with Israel and in the call for boycotting the Israeli presence. This [opposition and call] has become the policy of all the forces operating in the Egyptian political arena, with one exception, namely the ruling party leaderships. The government's insistence on issuing an abnormal law, such as the law of shame, to silence every opposing voice comes in itself at this time as an admission by the government itself of the abnormalcy of the distinctive relations between the Egyptian and Israeli governments which they call the normalization of relations.

The statement adds: We must realize, as stated by the party program, that the Middle East oil battle is the center of the interest of imperialism in the area and that the oil surpluses in particular have numerous meanings that affect directly the potentials of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The program [presumably party program] has considered the correction of oil prices a positive step. But at the same time, it has drawn attention to the fact that imperialism has hastened to try to contain the oil prices "and has tried to use the oil surpluses and the class privileges emanating from them to establish in the oil producing countries, especially the conservative ones, class interests tied to the West and seeking, like imperialism,

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to stabilize the transactions with the West. Imperialism, especially the U.S. imperialism, has wagered that these class interests that are tied to the West are capable of containing the anti-imperialist Arab revolutionary movement and capable, in particular, of supporting the U.S. settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and of transforming Israel, through the U.S. settlement, into an economic policeman making sure that the oil monies do not escape the grip of the West instead of confining Israel's role to that of the military policeman confronting the Arab liberation movement only."

The statement adds that our party's line must be defined in the following to confront the dangers of the coming phase:

1. Working to drop the Camp David accords. In this battle, our party is now moving within the framework of a broad front of forces opposing the Camp David accords at the Egyptian, Arab and international levels.
2. Awareness that victory in this main battle doesn't necessarily mean imposing a comprehensive settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict characterized by being just and by responding to the Arab demands, especially the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. There is the danger of a settlement for the conflict entailing replacement of the Egyptian Camp David by an Arab Camp David.
3. Our party must exploit the climate of the broad opposition to the Camp David accords to realize two goals:

First, proceeding to build firm bases among the popular masses of Egyptian workers, farmers and the various groups of the people's working forces by stressing the connection between the various issues from which the masses suffer: The issue of stifling the economic crisis and the issue of imposing the democracy of the sycophants instead of that of the producers.

Second, building a broad front on the basis of developing the points of agreement with the various political forces opposing the ruling party's policy, even if the points of agreement are confined to one of the prominent issues we are facing at present: The national issue, the democratic issue and the economic issue.

4. Inasmuch as our party succeeds in building firm bases among the masses during its battle to drop the Camp David accords, it will succeed by the same degree in securing a solution to the national and pan-Arab issue in freedom from the imperialist framework.

5. Our party, by virtue of its grouping format, represents the various components of the Egyptian liberation movement in its pan-Arab, social and enlightened religious dimensions. Inasmuch as our party exerts efforts to consolidate the interaction among these components, it will succeed in confronting the dangers of the coming phase and will bolster its popular presence.

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Regarding the issue of democracy, the statement says:

The party congress believes that this superficial democracy is nothing but the democracy of the parasitic classes that give the privileges to their supporters and withhold them from their opponents. This attack on the liberties of the citizens shows the ruling party's intellectual and political weakness and represents an open aggression against legitimacy.

The party believes that its position vis-a-vis the issue of democracy is summed up in a number of demands, including:

- A. Adoption of the principle that there is no authority without responsibility and the establishment of a parliamentary presidency in which the head of state is the true symbol of national unity.
- B. The holding of general elections under the canopy of a neutral authority--"election committee with powers in the constitution"--and on the basis of election by platforms [al-intikhabat bi al-qa'imah].
- C. Abolition of the constitutional provision that empowers the president of the republic to issue laws by decree, despite the presence of the People's Assembly, and abolition of article 74 of the constitution which gives the president of the republic powers that are almost absolute and that pose a threat to all the provisions of the constitution.
- D. Underlining the judiciary's independence from the executive authority and ending all forms of the special judiciary.
- E. Abolishing all the sentences issued by special courts in the political cases after May 1971, be they the sentences issued by the Revolution Court in case No 1 of 1971, by the state security courts or by the military courts.

In the economic and social sphere, the party's first general congress has reviewed the results produced by the economic policy and the open-door policy and it has become evident to it that this policy has broadened the social differences. While the society is divided into the extremely wealthy and the extremely poor, the individual has become unable to acquire the essential goods and services he needs in an acceptable way or at acceptable prices. Employment opportunities are becoming an ever-intensifying problem that is posing an evident threat to the citizen.

The statement says that the congress opposes the return to the foreign concessions that the state grants for a utility, a port, a road or a town. Giving investors a free hand to exploit a utility for 40 to 50 years in return for a limited revenue for the homeland and a bigger revenue for the investor is a danger to which we must draw attention, especially since Egypt had abolished in the past the electricity and tramline concessions and the Suez Canal concession.

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The congress also opposes the policies seeking to open the door for Israel to trade, speculate, invest and storm into the spheres of industry, agriculture, commerce, finance and the services in a manner that turns the Israeli hope of replacing Israel's military grip by an economic grip into a real and imminent danger.

In the sphere of foreign policy, the congress has called for:

1. Supporting and backing up the Iranian revolution which has turned Iran into a fundamental part of the front opposed to imperialism and Zionism and has, consequently, put it in the center of the Arab trench. We call for the initiation of an Arab-Iranian dialogue to adopt a common plan to confront the imperialist and Zionist enemy.
2. Correcting the relations with the Soviet Union and with the socialist bloc in its capacity as a strategic must for confronting the challenges imposed on us and for realizing our national and pan-Arab goals.
3. We believe that world peace secures the best conditions for realizing our goals. Therefore, we must work with all the forces struggling against the cold war and against the arms race.

We also believe in the U.N. principles and call for supporting the United Nations and expanding its activities so that it may serve all peoples of the world and may solve all the international problems through peaceful means and without the use of force or violence.

Concluding its political statement, the congress said: The Grouping Party urges all the Egyptian national opposition forces to consolidate their efforts and to work with all the constitutional and legitimate means and ways for:

- A. Forcing the present government to resign.
- B. Forming a provisional government comprised of democratic national elements acceptable to all the currents.
- C. This new government should abolish all the laws and conditions restricting the political and democratic liberties, especially: Custodianship law No 38 of 1971, law No 37 of 1972, law No 34 of 1972, law by decree No 2 of 1977, the law to protect the domestic front No 33 of 1978, decree bylaw No 36 of 1959, laws No 21, 22 and 23 of 1959 amending the People's Assembly regulations, as well as abolition of the state of emergency, the press censorship [exercised] through the instructions of the Press Bureau and the ruling party's monopolization of the press establishments, permitting the publication of partisan papers without restrictions or conditions and allowing the formation of parties without restrictions.

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D. Under the canopy of the creation of minimal democratic conditions, the new government should hold new People's Assembly elections on the basis of platforms and should secure for these platforms all the political and legal guarantees that give all the political forces equal rights to communicate with the masses and to explain their viewpoints to the masses and should prevent all police and administrative interference in the elections.

The party's General Congress has addressed a greeting of appreciation and pride to all the patriotic lawyers who have carried throughout 4 years the burden of defending the party members whose freedom has been restricted by the government.

The party's Central Committee will hold on Thursday and Friday, 29 and 30 May 1980, a meeting to examine the issues referred to it by the congress.

The congress has adopted a resolution to prepare for the convocation of a national congress to examine the farmers' issues.

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NPUG COMMITTEE OUTLINES ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SHORTCOMINGS IN PAST FOUR YEARS

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 pp 6, 7

[Article: "Organizational Report Committee: Grouping Format Has Come as Reflection of Development of Egyptian National Movement's Struggle"]

[Text] First Resolution: A General Organization Resolution

First: Grouping Format

The format on which the Grouping is established is a new and creative format that reveals the Egyptian man's rich capability to innovate that which is new and compatible with the social and economic developments. This format has not been a temporary must imposed by the state's insistence on confining political action to three organizations only. This format has come fundamentally as an objective expression reflecting the Egyptian national movement's development, the intensifying social differences, the dangers emanating from the government's escalating assault against the July revolution accomplishments and the presence of a joint intellectual position that unites all the national, progressive and unionist forces and distinguishes them from the forces existing in the arena. The report adds that a joint intellectual position based on a common view of the nature of the dangers threatening Egypt and the pan-Arab [al-qawmiyah] movement and on a positive evaluation of the 23 July revolution unites the Grouping forces. This common view of the need for the Grouping was in line with the elements of the Egyptian reality at the time when the Grouping was founded--elements embodied in the absence of any effective partisan organizations from the political reality. Our procession during the past years has proven the inevitability and importance of the Grouping format for the Egyptian people's struggle in this phase.

Second: Evaluation of Work Throughout 4 Years

The report reviews a number of organizational successes, especially the formation of the party's leadership committees, the discussion and preparation of the party's general program, the determination of a clear political line embodied in the party's replies to the government and the important

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political resolutions issued by the General Secretariat and by the party's Constituent Assembly. The party has also waged a number of important popular battles, especially the battles of the People's Assembly elections in 1976 and 1979, al-Jumruk [customs] election battle in 1978, the local council elections battle, the battles for the elections of the labor unions, the elections of the executive councils [of labor and professional unions] and the elections of the professional and student unions. The party has also engaged in numerous and various frontal [jabhawiya] activities, especially in the Committee for the Defense of Liberties and the Committee for the Defense of the Pan-Arab Culture, and has taken part with the other national and democratic forces in the unionist action, in confronting the attack on democracy and in confronting the Camp David accords and the policy of normalizing relations with the Israeli enemy. The report also notes the major role performed by AL-AHALI in reflecting sincerely the opinion of the party and of the Egyptian national and democratic forces and the role performed by AL-TAQADDUM in its attempt to fill the vacuum created by banning the publication of AL-AHALI.

Lack of Clear Organizational Plan

Regarding the negative aspects and the mistakes which our party has made, the report points out the lack of an organizational plan to act as a compass for our action, the failure to set up a central chamber for membership (lists), the poor communications and followup network, the reliance of work in most locations on a small number of individuals and not on organized partisan bodies, the lack of an organizational map for the party and the absence of the sound democratic course in the adoption of decisions at the various levels. The report also points out the danger of the absence of coalitions in some locations and the danger of the preoccupation of some of the party's cadres and organizations with political and intellectual theorization and discussions, despite their importance, and their negligence of the organizational problems and their failure to deal with the causes of these problems in certain areas. The report also points out the interest of some people in attaining leadership positions without their being able to produce, the absence of a sound scientific course in the popular action, the domination of the direct political action and the disregard for popular action intended to serve the masses.

Third: Spheres of Future Action

The report focuses on a number of tasks that constitute the foundation of the action in the coming phase, led by the tasks of classifying, analyzing and streamlining the membership in each governorate, the task of focusing on expanding membership among the ranks of farmers, workers and the youth and women sectors, the task of completing the building of the leadership in the governorates in accordance with the provisions of the bylaws, the task of establishing a sound communication network between the leadership and the base and of developing the means of this communication and the task of developing the party's financial resources and of setting up a complete and precise system for collecting subscriptions from the members.

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Popular Action

In the sphere of popular action, the report underlines the necessity of being guided by a number of general principles, including: Commitment to the causes of the popular masses while taking into consideration our party's intrinsic conditions so as to guarantee constant progress for the party by developing the forms of spontaneous struggle among the masses and the principle of bringing down the popular action to the man in the street on the basis of the constitutional legitimacy.

Continuing Efforts for Publication of AL-AHALI

The report also calls for exerting efforts for republication of AL-AHALI and for overcoming all the legal and printing obstacles. It also calls for initiating immediate efforts to establish a (commercial) printing and publication house in which the party leaders, members and friends participate. The report also calls for developing AL-TAQADDUM and for publishing it weekly as an internal publication designated for the members basically so that it may provide organizational, political and educational information.

Responsibility of Progressive Youth Union

The committee has also adopted a resolution considering the Youth Union the party sector responsible for action among the various sectors of the Egyptian youth. This union will also undertake the responsibility of training and educating youth politically in accordance with the party's political line and in the light of the party's political program.

Creation of Women's Wing

The committee has also adopted another resolution to entrust the Central Committee to start immediately formation of a women's wing in the party, to focus in women's membership on the popular elements found in the democratic, unionist and women's action sites and to consider the responsibility of setting up the women's wing the responsibility of all the male and female party members.

Resolution on Party's Central Leadership

The report concludes with a final resolution concerning the party's central leadership. The resolution expresses appreciation and pride in the colleagues who have shouldered the responsibility throughout these years, both as individuals and as committees, led by struggler Khalid Muhyi-al-Din. This appreciation and pride do not stem from emotional sentiments but stem basically from three integrated elements, the first being the important accomplishment realized in the formation and building of a real and independent party for the national, progressive and unionist forces in Egypt and second being the magnificent steadfastness and the superior courage

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displayed by the party leadership in confronting governments hostile to democracy and to the popular classes and their vanguards. The third of these elements is this distinguished form of self-criticism in which the General Secretariat has engaged sincerely and impartially and which is reflected in the secretariat's sound and obvious criticism of the march of the party in the past 4 years.

In view of all of this, the General Congress declares its appreciation for colleague struggler Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, for the General Secretariat members, for the Followup and Emergency Committee members and for the various committees and offices assisting the General Secretariat. The congress has approved this resolution unanimously.

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VARIOUS MEMBERS EXPRESS VIEWS ON NPUG, CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 p 8

[Article: "Progress in Dialogue With Members of First General Congress"]

[Text] Muhammad Mukhtat Jum'ah: Intellectual Presence Has Eliminated Distance Between Aswan and Cairo

Despite the long distance that separates us from Cairo, the center of everything in Egypt, we have not felt isolated intellectually and politically. The political unity and the intellectual presence established by the Grouping bring us a lot closer to each other. We often get the party resolutions and find them identical to what we feel.

When the political platforms were first established, a large popular majority joined our party. The phenomenon that draws attention is the fact that we did not have a single illiterate member, contrary to Egypt's Party for which they amassed members everywhere.

I am a member of the Aswan Government Committee (Local Government) for the third successive time. From my position, I try to defend the causes of the masses in Aswan and to solve their problems. People come to us to the party offices to solve their problems.

Time and the events have proven the soundness of our analysis and of our viewpoint of the open-door economy, of the Camp David accords and of the peace treaty with Israel. The government attempts to distort our positions have failed. The latest promise they have made to the people, namely the promise of prosperity in 1980, is evident now in the price levels and in the crises that we are experiencing at all levels.

The congress has been able to project the Grouping's "thinking" and the phenomenon of dissimilarity has disappeared to a large degree. All are eager for the Grouping and for its unity and the organizational and intellectual works have proceeded within this framework. The election of the General Secretariat is the best proof of this fact.

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Nabil Mansur: Youth Congress in July

The youth representatives have not taken part in the Central Committee's works and none of them has joined the General Secretariat because the first youth congress has not been held yet. This congress is expected to be held next July when it will elect its representatives to the party's Central Committee.

Approval by the party's General Congress of the resolution concerning the Youth Union will boost the union and enable it to concentrate its efforts in the coming period.

Convocation of the party's first congress is considered a major accomplishment, both organizationally and politically. The congress members in all the committees have had the opportunity to discuss the party documents presented to the congress.

Layla al-Shal: Male Party Members Don't Encourage Wives To Engage in Party's Political and Social Action

I had wished that the General Congress would approve representation of the Women's Bureau in the Central Committee. However, we respect the congress' resolution.

The storm that developed in the discussions regarding the party women's wing is due to changing the name to that of the Egyptian Women's Union. Moreover, the mixup between the party's women members and the women from outside the party has also created an argument over women's organizational representation in the party. It is my opinion that the women's wing should be comprised of the party's women members basically.

The colleague male party members have not exerted any efforts to persuade their wives to participate in the party's political, cultural and social activities. I believe that a progressive man should persuade his wife and his sister to take part in the activities of our party which defends the women's causes, in addition to defending the homeland's and the people's other causes.

Al-Badri Farghali: I Demand Relations With American People

The discussions have proceeded democratically and amicably and no political current has tried to impose its viewpoint on another.

I have demanded in the Political Committee that relations be established with the American people because these people helped the Vietnamese revolution and opposed the U.S. military invasion in Vietnam. I have also demanded that the Soviet forces be withdrawn from Vietnam.

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The congress has added new dimensions to the party and has realized more of the fusion required in the intellectual spheres among the various currents.

Ahmad Rajab: I Expected Big Differences

I am one of the founders of the Grouping Party since it was a platform in April 1976.

The congress has realized its goals in full. I have participated in the Bylaws Committee. I had felt that it is the most important committee and that big differences would erupt inside it. But the discussions have proceeded calmly and without tension.

During the discussion on the documents, I noticed that these documents have failed to note numerous peasant issues. However, the congress has corrected the situation and has adopted a resolution to hold a national conference for the farmers.

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DISCUSSIONS OF BYLAWS COMMITTEE OUTLINED

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 p 9

[Article: "From Discussions of Bylaws Committee"]

[Text] A total of 124 members have participated in the works of the Bylaws Committee, thus making it the congress' biggest committee. This committee's discussions on the first day lasted until 2300.

At the outset of its meetings, Abu-al-'Izz al-Hariri was elected its rapporteur, Muhammad Khalil and 'Abd-al-Salam Rizq were elected assistant rapporteurs and Muhammad al-Duhayri was elected secretary for its works.

The committee has witnessed a serious and effective dialogue between opinion and counter opinion. All concerned have been eager to reach the best formulations that reflect the political and organizational reality of our party as a party that represents a unique experience in the political sphere of the movement of progressive forces. It has been evident that most of the opinions expressed are the result of broad and numerous discussions at all levels of the party.

The main issues of discussion were the leadership level, the basic unit and the disciplinary committees.

The Provisional General Secretariat has established the good tradition of printing [sic] the opinion opposed to the visualization projected by the bylaws. It has printed an opinion by Dr Isma'il Sabri 'Abdallah and distributed it as one of the congress documents under the title of "The Need for Securing a Central Leadership Capable of Sound Planning and of Quick Movement." This document contains 'Abdallah's opinion on the inadequate condition of the central leadership in the preceding phase, on the political action requirements of the current phase and on his proposal for forming a political bureau (with no more than 11 members) and an executive committee. The proposal was discussed in detail and the ultimate vote came in favor of the visualization projected by the bylaws in its capacity as a visualization compatible with the Grouping format that requires broadening, not narrowing, the leadership.

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The committee also discussed another opposed opinion expressed by Mustafa 'Abd-al-Mun'im on the representation of the workers and the farmers in the General Secretariat. The vote came in favor of the visualization projected by the bylaws after adding the phrase "the need to take into consideration the real representation of the workers and the farmers."

Committee Recommendations

The committee adopted the following recommendations that have been approved by the General Congress:

In view of the importance of devoting full time to political action and of its role in building the party and its popular movement, this issue shall be presented to the Central Committee to discuss it in detail.

The General Congress entrusts its Central Committee to draw up a definition for the words "worker" and "farmer" to constitute the basis for the party's action.

The General Congress entrusts its Central Committee to draw up special bylaws for discipline and penalties.

New Committees

One of the most prominent committee works approved by the General Congress is the resolution to turn the Committee for the Defense of Liberties into a basic committee--a resolution compatible with the undemocratic situation and with the constant suppression of every voice of opposition.

The following other basic committees have also been established: The Religious Affairs and National Unity Committee, the Parliamentary Affairs Committee and the Arab Affairs Committee, in addition to the Studies and Research Center.

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COURT ISSUES SENTENCES ON DEFENDANTS IN JANUARY INCIDENTS

Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 [Special Supplement] p 11

[Article: "Information Bulletin"]

[Text] The National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party-the Committee for the Defense of Liberties:

The Supreme State Security Court (eighth circuit), chaired by Counselor Hakim Munir Salib, has issued its sentence on the case connected with the 18 and 19 January incidents and with the communist organization and in which 176 defendants have been indicted, including 84 defendants charged with being members of the Egyptian Communist Workers Party, 38 defendants charged with being members of the Egyptian Communist Party and 54 defendants charged with inciting and participating in the 18 and 19 January incidents.

The court has declared 155 defendants not guilty, including all the workers from Hulwan and from the Alexandria Shipbuilding Yard and the four accused journalists, namely: Husayn 'Abd-al-Raziq (AL-AKHBAR), Zuhdi al-'Adawi and Rushdi Abu-al-Hasan (ROSE AL-YUSUF) and Salah 'Isa (AL-JUMHURIYAH). The court has also declared all the lawyers not guilty.

The court has further declared the defendants belonging to the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party, numbering 46 defendants, not guilty. The court has also cleared popular poet Ahmad Fu'ad Najm and poets Zayn-al-'Abidin Fu'ad, Samir 'Abd-al-Baqi, 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Kuraymis and Mahmud al-Shazili.

The court has found guilty the 14 defendants who are charged with belonging to the Communist Workers Party and with participating in the demonstrations and in distributing leaflets:

Iman 'Atiyah sentenced to a three-year prison term and a fine of 100 pounds and Muhammad Fathi 'Abd-al-Jawad, Muhammad Mahmud Jad al-Nimr and Amal Hasa Hasan have been sentenced to a year's prison term at hard labor and a fine of 50 pounds each.

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BRIEFS

NPUG CONGRESS--The party General Secretariat decided in its meeting on Tuesday, 4 March, under the chairmanship of Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, the party rapporteur, to invite the party's first constituent congress to meet on Thursday, 10 April 1980, which coincides with the fourth anniversary of our party. The party's general program, the draft bylaws and an organizational report assessing the conditions under which the party was founded, the goals that it has set for itself, the battles that it has waged, the degree of accomplishment realized organizationally and culturally and in the party's popular and informational activity and the shortcomings in all these spheres will be presented to the congress. The congress will also discuss the political report. The General Secretariat will hold a number of meetings in the period from 18 to 25 March to approve the final form of the bills and reports that will be presented to the congress. These bills and reports will be then presented for discussion in the governorates. It is expected that the congress will last 2 days (Thursday and Friday, 10th and 11 April). [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 12 Mar 80 No 52 p 1] 8494

GREETING MESSAGES TO CONGRESS--A cable from Ron Haywood, secretary general of the British Workers [al-'ummah] Party; a cable from Lord (Fenner Brookway), chairman of the British Freedom Group; a cable from Tony Gilbert, member of the British House of Commons and secretary of the British Freedom Group; a message of greeting from Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO chairman; a message of greeting from Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; a message of greeting from Walid Junblatt, secretary general of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party; a message of greeting from the Jordanian Communist Party; a message of greeting from the National Front in the occupied West Bank; a message of greeting from comrade Saddam Husayn, the deputy secretary general and the secretary [sic] of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party Regional Command and the Revolution Command Council chairman in the Republic of Iraq; a message of of greeting from the French Communist Party and a message from the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee. All these messages and cables will be deposited with the congress secretariat to be printed with its documents. A number of members of the party's General Congress who were not able to attend the congress sessions have sent cables of congratulations and

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apologies, including: Mrs Shahandah Muqallad who has been elected a member of the party's General Secretariat despite her illness and absence; Shaykh 'Ali Khatir, the party secretary general in al-Gharbiyah; 'Abd-al-Hamid Habibah from Alexandria and Muhammad Mahmud Murad, the organization secretary in al-Gharbiyah. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 2] 8494

DEPARTED STRUGGLERS--Between 10 April 1976 and 1980, Kamal-al-Din Rif'at, Dr Mamduh al-Jundi, Judah Sa'id al-Dib, Muhammad 'Abd-al-Ghani, Hasan Judah Barakat and martyr Muhammad 'Abd-al-Fattah Mutawi' have departed from among us. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 2] 8494

JAILED MEMBERS--Seventeen party members detained in Liman Turrah [penitentiary] have sent to the first General Congress a message of greeting which was read by Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, the party secretary general, at the final session of the congress. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 2] 8494

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS--The number of the Central Committee members is 203 members, including seven members who are detained, five members who have apologized for not attending due to illness, six members who are abroad and 15 members who have failed to attend. Thus, the number of those attending is 170 members. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 2] 8494

GENERAL CONGRESS MEMBERS--The number of the General Congress members is 511 members representing 21 governorates. A total of 401 members, or 85 percent, have attended and the rest have failed to attend for various reasons. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 2] 8494

'AL-AHALI' READERSHIP--The distribution of AL-AHALI has amounted to 150,000 copies, distributed every Wednesday. A statistical report by al-Ahram Distribution Company says that the number of readers who read these copies amounts to 500,000 readers. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 2] 8494

CONFISCATION OF 'AL-AHALI'--Nine editions of AL-AHALI, including seven successive editions, have been confiscated. The confiscation orders have been issued by the Emergency Judiciary Court which used to be headed by Counselor Anwar Abu-Sahli who has become the minister of justice since then! [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 2] 8494

'AL-AHALI' PUBLISHING COMPANY--In the final session of the party's first General Congress, the party members subscribed 30,000 pounds for founding a joint-stock company to publish AL-AHALI, Dr Milad Hanna opened the subscription with his contribution of 10,000 pounds. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 2] 8494

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NEW GENERAL SECRETARIAT MEMBERS--A total of 17 new members have entered the General Secretariat in addition to the old members. The new members are: Aminah Shafiq (a journalist), 'Aryan Nasif (a lawyer), Dr 'Abd-al-Mun'im Kharbush (a university professor), Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad (a journalist), Muhammad Sabri Mubadda (a lawyer), 'Bad-al-Salam Rizq (a lawyer), Husayn 'Abdrabbuh (a lawyer), 'Isam Mu'awwad (a teacher), Ibrahim al-Jamal (a worker), 'Abd'al-Majid al-Duwayl (a farmer), Muhammad Mutawalli al-Sha'rawi (a worker), al-Badri al-Farghali (a worker), 'Abd-al-Hadi Nasif (a worker), 'Abd-al-Majid Ahmad 'Abd-al-Majid (a worker), Shahandah Muqallad (a worker), Rashad al-Jabali (a worker) and Dr Fu'ad Mursi. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 9] 8494

COMPANIES COOPERATING WITH ISRAEL--1. Salah Nabhan Company has set up a joint company with the Israeli (Juwayshan) Firm under the name of the Middle East Development Company whose offices are at 5 al-Maqrizi Street in al-Zamalik. 2. Ultra Trading Company, a branch of the Israeli (Cor) Inter-Trade opened in Egypt under the name of a German firm whose offices are at 6 al-Diwan Street, Garden City. [Text] [Cairo AL-TAQADDUM in Arabic 17 Apr 80 No 54 p 9] 8494

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